

## Claims

1. Sausage product having a sausage casing (1) closed at the ends and containing a sausage contents, characterized in that the sausage casing (1) is provided with an opening element (4) whose actuation enables the targeted opening off the sausage casing (1) in the area of the opening element (4).

2. Sausage product according to claim 1, characterized in that the sausage casing (1) is comprised of a material that can be torn in all directions.

3. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the opening element (4) is arranged such on the sausage casing (1) that an actuation effects opening of the sausage casing (1) substantially transverse to a longitudinal sausage axis (6).

4. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the opening element (4) is arranged near a sausage end (2).

5. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the opening element (4) is fixedly connected to the sausage casing (1), in particular by gluing or welding.

6. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the sausage casing (1) is pre-damaged in the area of the opening element (4).

7. Sausage product according to claim 6, characterized in that the pre-damage (5) is formed by a perforation that is substantially arrowhead-shaped.

8. Sausage product according to claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the pre-damage is closed by the opening element (4).

9. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the opening element (4) has a free grip area (7) and a tearing area (8) that is fixedly connected to the sausage casing (1).

10. Sausage product according to claim 9, characterized in that the side of the tearing area (8) of the opening element (4) that is facing the sausage casing (1) is coated with an adhesive.

11. Sausage product according to claim 9 or 10, characterized in that the connection of the tearing area (8) of the opening element (4) to the sausage casing (1) has a shape that assists in a targeted damaging and opening of the sausage casing (1).

12. Sausage product according to one of the claims 9 to 11, characterized in that the connection of the tearing area (8) of the opening element (4) to the sausage casing (1) is shaped to taper pointedly toward the grip area (7).

13. Sausage product according to one of the claims 9 to 12, characterized in that the connection of the tearing area (8) of the opening element (4) to the sausage casing (1) is designed to be stronger than an initial tearing resistance of the sausage casing (1).

14. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the opening element (4) comprises a damaging tool (13).

15. Sausage product according to claim 14, characterized in that the damaging tool (13) is arranged on a bottom side of the opening element (4) facing the sausage casing (1).

16. Sausage product according to claim 14 or 15, characterized in that the  
5 damaging tool (13) is at least partially sharp-edged and/or pointed.

17. Sausage product according to one of the claims 14 to 16, characterized in that the damaging tool (13) is comprised of a plastic part or sheet metal part having at least one edge that is angled in a direction toward the sausage casing (1).

18. Sausage product according to one of the claims 14 to 17, characterized in  
10 that the opening element (4) has a portion (16) fixedly connected to the sausage casing (1) with which a portion (17) comprising the damaging tool (13) is movably connected for actuating the damaging tool (13).

19. Sausage product according to claim 18, characterized in that the movable portion (17) is secured against accidental actuation.

20. Sausage product according to one of the claims 18 or 19, characterized in  
15 that the portion (16) of the opening element (4) fixedly connected to the sausage casing (1) is a unitary part of the movable portion (17).

21. Sausage product according to one of the claims 1 to 17, characterized in that the opening element (4) is a monolithic part and is substantially bending-resistant.

22. Sausage product according to one of the claims 9 to 17 or 21, characterized  
20 in that the grip area (7) is rigidly connected to the tearing area (8).

23. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the opening element (4) has a curvature that follows substantially a contour of the sausage product and is substantially matched to the shape of the sausage product.

5 24. Sausage product according to one of the claims 1 to 13 or 21 to 23, characterized in that the opening element (4) is configured to have a blunt edge or to be rounded in the areas that contact the sausage casing (1) in particular during actuation of the opening element (4).

10 25. Sausage product according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the opening element (4) is substantially rectangular with rounded corners.

26. Sausage casing (1) for producing a sausage product according to one of the claims 1 to 25.